

**CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM  
APPLICATION EVALUATION RANKING TOOL QUESTIONS  
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE**

**National Priorities Addressed**

| Issue Questions   | Points |
|---|--------|
| 1. Programmatically, there are ten resource concerns that can be addressed through the implementation of conservation activities. The resource concerns are soil erosion, soil quality degradation, excess water, insufficient water, water quality degradation, air quality impacts, degraded plant condition, inadequate habitat for fish and wildlife, livestock production limitation, and inefficient energy use. Use this information to answer question 1. Using the CAET Summary Report completed for this application, identify the one land use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the smallest number of resource concerns planned to be met or exceeded by the implementation of a new conservation activity. Choose the response that is the best match. Note: Associated Ag Land and Farmstead land uses are excluded from consideration. |        |
| 1. a. All applicable resource concerns have a new conservation activity planned.  | 100    |
| 2. b. Seven to nine resource concerns have a new conservation activity planned. If range is the land use with the smallest number of resource concerns planned, seven resource concerns have a new conservation activity planned.   | 80     |
| 3. c. Four to six resource concerns have a new conservation activity planned.   | 60     |
| 4. d. One to three resource concerns have a new conservation activity planned.  | 40     |
| Use the lands use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the LEAST amount of resource concerns met to answer this question. AAL and Farmstead are excluded from this question. If a participant schedules multiple activities on a resource concern, it will be counted as one for that resource concern.   |        |
| 2. Does the application have CRP lands transitioning to CSP? Choose the response that is the best match.  |        |
| 1. a. All transitioning CRP acres will maintain a permanent cover for the term of the CSP contract.   | 20     |
| 2. b. 50-99% of the transitioning CRP acres will maintain a permanent cover for the term of the CSP contract.   | 10     |
| 3. c. 25-49% of the transitioning acres will maintain a permanent cover for the term of the contract.   | 5      |
| 3. Using the CAET Summary Report completed for this application, identify the one land use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the smallest number of resource concerns met at the time of application. Choose the response that is the best match. <b>Note:</b> Associated Ag Land and Farmstead land uses are excluded from consideration.   |        |
| 1. a. All applicable resource concerns are met at time of application.  | 100    |
| 2. b. More than 50% of the resource concerns are met at the time of application.  | 80     |
| 3. c. More than two resource concerns are met at the time of application.   | 60     |
| Use the lands use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the LEAST amount of resource concerns met to answer this question. AAL and Farmstead are excluded from this question.  |        |
| 4. When are conservation activities planned in the contract offer on all land uses? Choose the response that is the best match.   |        |
| 1. a. All planned conservation activities will be adopted within the first 12 months.   | 100    |
| 2. b. All planned conservation activities will be adopted within the first 24 months.   | 50     |
| 3. c. All planned conservation activities will be adopted within the first 36 months.   | 25     |
| A participant must schedule, install, and adopt at least one additional conservation activity on any land use within the first 12 months of the contract. So if you have only one land use, and one activity scheduled, it must be completed in the first 12 months.  |        |

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| 5. Using the CAET Summary Report, identify the one land use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the fewest number of conservation activities planned. Choose the response that is the best match. <b>Note:</b> Associated Ag Land and Farmstead land uses are excluded from consideration. |     |
| 1. a. Planned conservation activities cover 75% or greater of the land use acres.   | 100 |
| 2. b. Planned conservation activities cover 50-74% of the land use acres.   | 50  |
| 3. c. Planned conservation activities cover 25-49% of the land use acres.   | 25  |
| Use the lands use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the LEAST amount of conservation activities planned to answer this question. AAL and Farmstead are excluded from this question. Percentages will be calculated on the whole land use acres not the management system acres.          |     |
| 6. Does the application include enhancement bundles? Choose the response that is the best match. <b>Note:</b> Associated Ag Land and Farmstead land uses are excluded from consideration.   |     |
| 1. a. Considering every land use in the application, at least one bundle is planned on each land use.   | 40  |
| 2. b. Considering applications with more than one land use, at least one bundle is planned on one, or more of the land uses, but not all.   | 20  |
| 7. Will the producer improve wildlife habitat for T&E species or species of concern by adopting one of the following conservation activity options?   |     |
| 1. a. Producer will adopt at least one wildlife bundle.   | 20  |
| 2. b. Producer will adopt at least two individual wildlife conservation activities.   | 13  |
| 3. c. Producer will adopt one wildlife conservation activity.   | 6   |
| All wildlife conservation activities will meet this requirement.  |     |
| 8. Will the producer improve the resource concern Soil Quality Degradation to address soil health by adopting one of the following conservation activity options?   |     |
| 1. a. Producer will adopt at least one soil health bundle.  | 20  |
| 2. b. Producer will adopt at least two individual soil quality degradation conservation activities.   | 13  |
| 3. c. Producer will adopt one soil quality degradation conservation activity.   | 6   |

## State Issues Addressed

| Issue Questions   | Points |
|---|--------|
| 1. Using the CAET Summary Report completed for this application, identify the one land use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the smallest number of targeted resource concerns met at the time of application. Choose the response that is the best match. <b>Note:</b> Associated Ag Land and Farmstead land uses are excluded from consideration.        |        |
| 1. a. All five targeted resource concerns are met.  | 30     |
| 2. b. Four targeted resource concerns are met.  | 24     |
| 3. c. Three targeted resource concerns are met.   | 18     |
| 4. d. Two targeted resource concerns are met.   | 12     |
| 5. e. One targeted resource concerns are met.   | 6      |
| 6. f. No targeted resource concern is met.  | 0      |
| Use the lands use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the LEAST amount of targeted resource concerns met at the time of application to answer this question. AAL and Farmstead are excluded from this question.  |        |
| 2. Using the CAET Summary Report completed for this application, identify the one land use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the smallest number of targeted resource concerns met by the end of the contract period. Choose the response that is the best match. <b>Note:</b> Associated Ag Land and Farmstead land uses are excluded from consideration. |        |
| 1. a. All five targeted resource concerns will be met.  | 100    |
| 2. b. Four targeted resource concerns will be met.  | 80     |
| 3. c. Three targeted resource concerns will be met.   | 60     |
| 4. d. Two targeted resource concerns will be met.   | 40     |
| 5. e. One targeted resource concerns will be met.   | 20     |
| 6. f. No targeted resource concerns will be met.  | 0      |
| Use the lands use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the LEAST amount of targeted resource concerns met by the end of the contract to answer this question. AAL and Farmstead are excluded from this question.  |        |
| 3. Using the CAET Summary Report, identify the one land use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the smallest number of non-targeted resource concerns met by the end of the contract period. Choose the response that is the best match.   |        |
| 1. a. All five non-targeted resource concerns will be met.  | 80     |
| 2. b. Four non-targeted resource concerns will be met.  | 64     |
| 3. c. Three non-targeted resource concerns will be met.   | 48     |
| 4. d. Two non-targeted resource concerns will be met.   | 32     |
| 5. e. One non-targeted resource concerns will be met.   | 16     |
| 6. f. No non-targeted resource concerns will be met.  | 0      |
| Use the lands use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the LEAST amount of non-targeted resource concerns met by the end of the contract to answer this question. AAL and Farmstead are excluded from this question.  |        |

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| 4. If the majority of the land (51% or greater) in the contract offer is within a State designated priority sub-geographic area of the designated fund pool (see delineated areas supplied by the State), answer question 4. Otherwise skip to the next question. Using the CAET Summary Report, how many out of all ten resource concerns will be met by the end of the contract in the priority area (add up the total number of unique resource concerns met across all land uses in the application; only count a resource concern one time, even if the same resource concern is met across multiple land uses in the application)? |    |
| 1. a. 10 resource concerns are met. If applicant's only land use is range, 8 resource concerns are met.  | No |
| 2. b. 8-9 resource concerns will be met. If applicant's only land use is range, do not select this response.   | No |
| 3. c. 6-7 resource concerns will be met.   | No |
| 4. d. 4-5 resource concerns will be met.   | No |
| 5. e. 2-3 resource concerns will be met.   | No |
| 6. f. 0-1 resource concerns will be met.   | No |
| 7. g. The majority of the land is NOT in a state designated priority sub-geographic area.  | No |
| Do NOT answer this question. All responses should be left as NO.   |    |
| 5. If the majority of the land (51% or greater) in the contract offer is within an airshed targeted for air quality improvement efforts (see delineated areas supplied by the State), answer question 5. Otherwise skip to the next question. Using the CAET Summary Report, how many of the 9 remaining resource concerns will be met by the end of the contract in addition to air quality (add up the total number of unique resource concerns met across all land uses in the application; only count a resource concern one time, even if the same resource concern is met across multiple land uses in the application)?           |    |
| 1. a. 9 resource concerns are met. If applicant's only land use is range, 7 resource concerns are met.   | No |
| 2. b. 7-8 resource concerns are met. If applicant's only land use is range, do not select this response.   | No |
| 3. c. 5-6 resource concerns are met.   | No |
| 4. d. 3-4 resource concerns are met.   | No |
| 5. e. 1-2 resource concerns are met.   | No |
| 6. f. The majority of the land is NOT in a state designated priority airshed for air quality improvement.  | No |
| Do NOT answer this question. All responses should be left as NO.   |    |
| 6. If the majority of the land (51% or greater) in the contract offer is within a watershed targeted for water quality improvement efforts (see delineated areas supplied by the State), answer question 6. Otherwise skip. Using the CAET Summary Report, how many of the 9 remaining resource concerns will be met by the end of the contract in addition to water quality (add up the total number of unique resource concerns met across all land uses in the application; only count a resource concern one time, even if the same resource concern is met across multiple land uses in the application)?                           |    |
| 1. a. 9 resource concerns are met. If applicant's only land use is range, 7 resource concerns are met.   | No |
| 2. b. 7-8 resource concerns are met. If applicant's only land use is range, do not select this response.   | No |
| 3. c. 5-6 resource concerns are met.   | No |
| 4. d. 3-4 resource concerns are met.   | No |
| 5. e. 1-2 resource concerns are met.   | No |
| 6. f. The majority of the land is NOT in a state designated priority watershed for water quality improvement.  | No |
| Do NOT answer this question. All responses should be left as NO.   |    |

## Local Issues Addressed

| Issue Questions   |                                |   | Points |
|---|--------------------------------|---|--------|
| 1. Does the application include conservation activities that will address one or more of the identified targeted resource concerns listed in the Kansas resource assessment? Select one of the following:                         |                                |   |        |
| 1. a. All five targeted resource concerns will be addressed.  |                                |   | 150    |
| 2. b. Four targeted resource concerns will be addressed.  |                                |   | 120    |
| 3. c. Three targeted resource concerns will be addressed.   |                                |   | 90     |
| 4. d. Two targeted resource concerns will be addressed.   |                                |   | 60     |
| 5. e. One targeted resource concerns will be addressed.   |                                |   | 30     |
| 6. f. No targeted resource concerns will be addressed.  |                                |   | 0      |
| Use the lands use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the GREATEST amount of targeted resource concerns met by the end of the contract to answer this question. AAL and Farmstead are excluded from this question.<br>Example: |                                |   |        |
|   | Target RC's Met at application | Targeted RC's Exceeded by End of Contract |        |
| Crop  | 3                              | 1   |        |
| Range   | 3                              | 0   |        |
| Pasture   | 2                              | 1   |        |
| In this scenario for this question we would use cropland because it has the greatest number (4 targeted RC's) being met and exceeded by end of the contract.  |                                |   |        |